# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

Friday, January 05, 2007

# **Electricity**

### Update: Over 11,000 Nebraska Utility Customers Still Without Power January 5

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) officials estimate 11,000 utility customers remain without power as of early January 5, and Cornhusker Public Power District (CPPD) estimates about 700 customers are also without power. NPPD expects to restore power to most of its retail customers soon; but indicated that it may take several weeks before restoration to customers in rural areas and customers that purchase power can be completed. CPPD expects total power restoration by early next week.

http://www.columbustelegram.com/articles/2007/01/05/news/news3power.txt

### Italy's Enel to Build 277 MW of Wind Generation in U.S. and Canada

The company plans to build a 250 megawatt wind farm in Kansas and a 27 megawatt plant in Newfoundland. The first phase of the Kansas (Smoky Hills) project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2007. The Newfoundland project is expected to go on line by the end of 2008.

http://www.topix.net/content/ap/3705455759110393507520015370632799823259

# AES May Build 300 MW Power Plant Next to Proposed LNG Terminal in Maryland

The AES Corporation is exploring the possibility of building a 300 MW natural gas-fired plant next to its proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal at Sparrows Point in Maryland. The plant would run on re-vaporized LNG from the terminal. AES plans to file an application next week for the plant with FERC, which will review an application to build and operate the LNG terminal.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news article.cfm?id=7617795

# Dominion's 925 MW North Anna 1 Nuke Reactor Ramped Up To 60 Percent in Virginia January 5

The 925 MW nuclear unit shut on January 3 due to an electrical failure, which affected the flow of feedwater into a steam generator. The unit ramped up to 60 percent power by early January 5 after a repair, according to a company spokesperson.

Reuters, 07:23 January 5, 2007

Bloomberg News, 11:19 January 5, 2007

#### Conectiv Energy Approved to Build 1,100 MW Gas-fired Plant in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection has approved Conectiv Energy's initial air permit proposal to build the 1,100 MW power plant in Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania. The plant will burn natural gas as the primary fuel and ultra low sulfur diesel as a backup fuel. The air permits are to be issued in two phases – a plan approval, which approves of the construction, and an operating permit, which occurs after the construction is completed and demonstrates compliance with the requirements outlined in the plan approval. Reuters, 13:21 January 5, 2007

# Unit at Dominion's 1,581 MW Mount Storm Coal-fired Plant Shut in West Virginia **January 5 - Traders**

Reuters reports that traders indicate that one of the units at the Mount Storm coal-fired power plant shut; no details were available and company officials were not available to comment.

Reuters, 14:14 January 5, 2007

### AEP's 675 MW Pirkey Coal-fired Unit Shut in Texas January 5

The 675 MW unit, located in Hallsville, Dallas, shut due to the lockup of the primary air heater. The company did not say when the unit would return to service.

Reuters, 07:36 January 5, 2007

#### Xcel Energy to Expand 2,400 MW Sherco Coal-fired Unit in Minnesota

Xcel plans to add an additional 140 MW to the 2,400 MW facility according to a paper filed by Xcel on January 2 with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. If approved, Xcel plans to begin construction in late 2008 and complete the work by 2012.

Reuters, 15:57 January 4, 2007

# Petroleum

# Flint Hill Reports Leak in Alkylation Unit at Corpus Christi Refinery in Texas

According to a filing with the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality, Flint Hills Resources shut a component of the alkylation unit at its Corpus Christ refinery due to a tube leak on January 4. The event lasted about five hours, ending around 11 p.m. but the company spokesperson was unable to comment on the operational status of the refinery.

Reuters, 10:09 January 5, 2007

#### Update: BP Reports Flaring During Startup of 60,000 b/d Unit at Texas City Refinery

The unit had been shut since early December and had begun to restart on January 4; however, BP reported flaring gas from an ultracracker during startup. Flaring is expected to last through January 12, according to a report by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Bloomberg News, 14:33 January 4, 2007

#### Severely Damaged Power Plant in Puerto Rico Results in Residual Fuel Oil Glut

OPIS reports that the Palo Seco power plant in San Juan, Puerto Rico, severely damaged by fires in late December could be out of service for up to one year. Since the plant burns a large volume of residual fuel oil, the outage will result in a significant amount of additional residual fuel oil being available to the market.

OPIS Price Watch Alert, 16:17 January 5, 2007

#### Natural Gas

#### **Update: Weather Continues to Prevent Repairs on Plains All-American Line**

Rough seas in the Gulf of Mexico continue to prevent divers from working to repair the High Island Offshore System (HIOS), out of service since a break occurred on Christmas. The line carries approximately 28,000 b/d of oil and as much as 140 MMCf/d of natural gas. The company does not have an estimate as to when repairs will be completed.

NGI, Daily Gas Price Index, www.intelligencepress.com, January 5, 2007

#### McMoRan's Main Pass LNG Port Receives Final Approval

McMoRan Exploration Company's Main Pass Energy Hub, a LNG receiving and storage terminal that will be located offshore Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico, has received final approval from the US Maritime Administration. The company has not specified when construction will begin, but it is believed that the project will be completed within about three years.

NGI, Daily Gas Price Index, January 05, 2007

Oil Daily, January 5, 2007

#### Other News

Nothing to report.

# **Energy Prices**

| U.S. Oil and Gas Prices  January 5, 2007         |       |          |          |
|--|-------|----------|----------|
|  | Today | Week Ago | Year Ago |
| CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel | 56.05 | 60.85    | 62.79    |
| NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu             | 5.52  | 5.50     | 9.29     |

Source: Reuters

# **Energy Notes**

# Lyondell Chemical's 283,000 b/d Texas Refinery Suffered Brief Unit Upsets – Operations Return to Normal

Reuters, 16:27 January 4, 2007

# Magellan Says No Injuries or Impacts to Wholesale Supplies from Gas Tank Fire in Missouri

Reuters, 15:02 January 4, 2007

## **Update: TXU Coal Plant in Texas has Permit Delayed Again**

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\_article.cfm?id=7615650

# As Deepwater GOM E&P Increases, Need for Shuttle Tankers to Increase

Reuters, 11:02 January 5, 2007

# **Environmental Group Suggests Amount of Corn Diverted From Food Supply for Use as Ethanol Has Been Underestimated**

Oil Daily, January 5, 2007

### Five Chinese Oil Workers Kidnapped in Niger Delta on January 5

Reuters, 08:39 January 5, 2007

# Links

#### **This Week in Petroleum** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp

Updated every Wednesday.

### Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\_gas/petroleum/data\_publications/weekly\_petroleum\_status\_report/wpsr.html Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

# Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

# **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

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Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov